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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for early occlusion culling are provided. For the method of the present invention, a host processor establishes a coarse Z-buffer. The coarse Z-buffer is divided into a series of tiles. Each tile has an associated depth value. The depth values are updated using information fed back from the Z-buffer. The host processor uses the depth values to selectively discard occluded objects before they are rendered.